



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Bob Thorpe (R-6)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thorpe Memorial Urging EPA to Eradicate Uranium Pollution in Arizona Passes House

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representative Bob Thorpe (R-6) today applauded the House of Representatives for passing a memorial ([HCM 2003](#)) he has introduced urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take immediate action to eradicate uranium and related air and water pollution in this state, which is heavily concentrated on Navajo lands. The memorial also urges the Attorney General of Arizona to consider any appropriate legal actions to compel the EPA to act.

Between 1944 and 1986, nearly 30 million tons of uranium ore were mined from Navajo lands in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah.

“Standards for mining were very different in the mid-1900s when federal government contracts started to pop up in Arizona, and the aftermath of these mines is still an environmental concern that hasn’t been addressed to today’s standards,” Representative Bob Thorpe. **“I’d like to send a message to the EPA that they must be held responsible for their inaction in Arizona to clean leftover waste and take steps necessary to prevent catastrophic events like the Gold King Mine accident from affecting our state again in the future.”**

“Much of this uranium mining waste on Navajo and Hopi lands in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico has been left dormant for over 70 years – that’s unacceptable.”

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